



U.S. Department  
of Transportation  
**Federal Aviation  
Administration**

# Memorandum

Subject: **INFORMATION**: Change in Air Traffic Noise  
Screen Policy

Date: JAN 17 2001

From: Program Director for Air Traffic  
Airspace Management, ATA-1

Reply to  
Attn. of:

To: Distribution

**Reference: Federal Register/Vol. 65, No. 235/Wednesday, December 6, 2000/  
Notices, p. 76339**

The Air Traffic Noise Screen (ATNS) is a computerized noise screening procedure used to evaluate proposed changes in arrival procedures and departure procedures. The ATNS evaluated noise exposure values using an 18,000 feet ceiling for departure traffic and a 7,000 feet ceiling for arrival traffic.

A scientific study has been completed which analyzed predicted noise exposures using different altitude ceilings. This study confirmed that an altitude cut-off of 10,000 feet above ground level (AGL) has materially the same predictive capability as the ATNS used up to 18,000 feet AGL.

Therefore, effective January 5, the revised ATNS is to be used to evaluate proposed changes in arrival procedures between 3,000 feet and 7,000 feet AGL, and departure procedures between 3,000 and 10,000 feet AGL for large civil jet aircraft weighing over 75,000 pounds.

If you have any questions on this procedure, please contact Mr. Bill Marx, Manager, Air Traffic Environmental Programs Division, at (202) 267-9367.

John S. Walker

Attachment